## Message Text

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**ACTION EUR-25** 

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 NIC-01 OMB-01 SAJ-01 CU-04

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R 151453Z APR 74 FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9092 INFO AMEMBASSY SOFIA AMEMBASSY ATHENS AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI AMCONSUL ZAGREB UNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BELGRADE 1802

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PINT YO

SUBJ: SIXTH CONGRESS OF LC MACEDONIA

- 1. SIXTH CONGRESS OF MACEDONIAN LEAGUE OF COMMUNISTS, MEETING IN SKOPJE APRIL 10-12, ELECTED ANGEL CEMERSKI TO ANOTHER TERM AS PARTY PRESIDENT AND BORO DENKOV, CURRENTLY MEMBER OF LCY PRESIDIUM, AS SECRETARY OF NEW EIGHT-MEMBER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. NEW PRESIDIUM WILL HAVE 21 MEMBERS.
- 2. IN CONTRAST TO DENUNCIATIONS OF ITALY AND US (FOR ITS PARTICIPATION IN DARK IMAGE MANEUVERS) WHICH CAME OUT OF SLOVENIAN AND CROATIAN CONGRESSES, CEMERSKI'S ADDRESS MADE ONLY PASSING REFERENCE TO "IRREDENTIST FORCES IN ITALY". HOWEVER HE FOCUSED CRITICISM OF TREATMENT OF MACEDONIAN MINORITIES IN BULGARIA, GREECE AND ALBANIA, PLEDGING PARTY'S SUPPORT FOR THEIR STRUGGLE TO GAIN THEIR RIGHTS. DURING LATER DISCUSSIONS, ANOTHER SPEAKER RECITED YUGOSLAV VERSION OF "DISAPPEARANCE" OF MACEDONIAN MINORITY IN BULGARIA, REFERRING TO PROCESS BY WHICH BULGARIAN GOVERNMENT GRADUALLY CAME TO POINT OF DENYING THAT THERE IS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MACEDONIAN MINORITY IN BULGARIA. ALTHOUGH CEMERSKI DISCUSSED

PARTY IDEOLOGICAL STRUGGLES IN ABSTRACT TERMS AS PROBLEM OF LCY, SUBSEQUENT SPEAKERS REFERRED TO ANTISOCIALIST THEORIES WHICH HAD APPEARED IN SKOPJE UNIVERSITY PARTY ORGANIZATION AND ELESEWHERE.

- 3. PARTY WENT ON RECORD IN SUPPORT OF FREEDOM OF CREATIVITY IN ARTS, BUT CONTEXT MADE CLEAR THAT THIS FREEDOM SHOULD ENCOMPASS ONLY ART WHICH IS PROPERLY SOCIALISTIC IN ORIENTATION. CONGRESS ALSO REAFFIRMED DEMOCRATIC-CENTRALISM AS PROPER COURSE OF LC, INDICATING THAT PARTY WILL MAINTAIN ACTIVE LEADERSHIP ROLE IN YUGOSLAV SOCIETY.
- 4. COMMENT:WE CANNOT REMEMBER ANY RECENT YUGOSLAV
  REFERENCES TO MACEDONIAN MINORITY IN ALBANIA, WHICH MUST
  BE SMALL NUMBER. NIS ESTIMATES THAT ALL FOUR ETHNIC
  MINORITIES IN ALBANIA AMOUNT TO ONLY 4 PERCENT OF POPULATION,
  AND THERE IS NO REFERENCE TO MACEDONIAN MINORITY.
  REGARDLESS OF NUMBERS, IF MACEDONIANS PUSH ON THIS THEME,
  IT COULD BECOME A JARRING FACTOR IN HEITHERTO MORIBUND
  YUGOSLAV-ALBANIAN RELATIONSHIP AS IT IS IN RELATIONS
  WITH BULGARIA AND GREECE.
  TOON

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